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**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA
MISSOULA DIVISION**

CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY,

Plaintiff,

v.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE;
MARTHA WILLIAMS, in her official
capacity as Director of the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
THE INTERIOR; and DEBRA HAALAND,
in her official capacity as Secretary of the
U.S. Department of the Interior,

Defendants.

Case No: 9:21-cv-00144-DWM

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Plaintiff and Federal Defendants hereby jointly provide this status report.

Federal Defendants' counsel has submitted the proposed settlement agreement—

which would settle the merits of the case—to the Assistant Attorney General for the United States Department of Justice’s Environment and Natural Resources Division for approval or disapproval. Federal Defendants anticipate that the Assistant Attorney General will decide whether to approve the settlement agreement before the stay expires on November 23, 2022. The parties have also submitted several offers and counteroffers regarding Plaintiff’s request to settle attorneys’ fees and costs. The parties’ discussions regarding fees are ongoing.

Dated: November 18, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

TODD KIM, Assistant Attorney General
SETH M. BARSKY, Deputy Assistant Attorney General
S. JAY GOVINDAN, Section Chief

/s/ Kaitlyn Poirier
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Attorneys for Plaintiff

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on November 18, 2022, a true and correct copy of the above document was electronically filed with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of this filing to the attorneys of record.

/s/ Kaitlyn Poirier

KAITLYN POIRIER, Trial Attorney (TN Bar # 034394)

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